REMARKS

In view of the foregoing amendments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection.

In the outstanding action, claims 22-27 and 29-32 were allowed and claims 11, 12, and 14-21 were rejected. Allowed claims 29 and 30 were dependent from rejected independent claims 11 and 16, respectively. By way of present amendment, independent claims 11 and 16 were amended to include all the features of dependent claims 29 and 30. Dependent claims 29 and 30 were then cancelled as redundant. In view of the amendments to independent claims 11 and 16, the claims are allowable. Furthermore, claims 12, 14, and 15, dependent from claim 11, and claims and 17-21, dependent from claim 16, are allowable as well.

Independent allowed claims 22 and 27, and allowed claims 23-26, 31, and 32 dependent therefrom remain unchanged.

Further and favourable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

It is believed that this submission is a timely response to the outstanding action and that no additional claim fees are required. However, if necessary, this paper should be considered as a Petition for Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response. Please charge any fees related to this submission to Deposit Account No. 501249.

Respectfully Submitted,

July 29, 2004

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